



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/210,472	12/14/1998	GYU-YEONG SON	1399.1001	5435

21171 7590 01/26/2006
STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

TRAN, THAI Q

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2616

DATE MAILED: 01/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/210,472

Applicant(s)

SON ET AL.

Examiner

Thai Tran

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 June 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 16-85 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 16-85 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 December 1998 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed June 21, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In re page 14, applicants argue that under Rule 131(a), conception may take place in a World Trade Organization (WTO) member country on or after January , 1996 for purposes of antedating a reference under Rule 131(a) and the Republic of Korea, where conception and reduction to practice took place, has been a member of the WTO since January 1, 1995.

In response, the examiner respectfully disagrees. 37 CFR § 1.131(a) states that

“When any claim of an application or a patent under reexamination is rejected, the inventor of the subject matter of the rejected claim, the owner of the patent under reexamination, or the party qualified under §§ 1.42, 1.43, or 1.47, may submit an appropriate oath or declaration to establish invention of the subject matter of the rejected claim prior to the effective date of the reference or activity on which the rejection is based. The effective date of the U.S. patent, U.S. patent application publication, or international application publication under PCT Article 21(2) is the earlier of its publication date or date that it is effective as a reference under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). Prior invention may not be established under this section in any country other than the United States, a NAFTA country, or a WTO member country. Prior invention may not be established under this section before December 8, 1993, in a NAFTA country other than the United States, or before January 1, 1996, in a WTO member country other than the United States, or before January 1, 1996, in a WTO member counter other than NAFTA country. Prior invention may not be established under this section if either:...”.

It is recognized that prior invention may be established under 37 CFR § 1.131(a) in United States, a NAFTA country, or a WTO member country. However, 37 CFR § 1.131(a) does not specifically state that conception can be established by using “The

Art Unit: 2616

invention disclosure form" signed in Republic of Korea. Applicants do not provide any fact for evidence to show that the Republic of Korea became a member of the WTO since January 1, 1995.

The Examiner, as discussed in the last Office Action, found based on the holding, in *In re Mulder*, 219 USPQ 189, that conception must take place in this country, the United States and applicants do not credibly argue, nor could they, that conception can be established by using "The invention disclosure form" signed in Republic of Korea.

In re pages 14-15, applicants state that Cato is no longer prior art because of the Declaration under Rule 131(a).

In response, as discussed above, the Declaration under Rule 131(a) is insufficient to establish a conception of the invention prior to the effective date of the Cal references because it is not conception in this country as required by *In re Mulder*.

Declaration Under Rule 131(a)

2. Affidavit or Declaration Under 37 CFR 1.131: Ineffective, Insufficient Evidence of Conception

The evidence submitted is insufficient to establish a conception of the invention prior to the effective date of the Cato reference. While conception is the mental part of the inventive act, it must be capable of proof, such as by demonstrative evidence or by a complete disclosure to another. Conception is more than a vague idea of how to solve a problem. The requisite means themselves and their interaction must also be

Art Unit: 2616

comprehended. See *Mergenthaler v. Scudder*, 1897 C.D. 724, 81 O.G. 1417 (D.C. Cir. 1897).

As discussed above, “**the invention disclosure form**” signed on Sept. 26, 1997 in the Declaration Under Rule 131(a) filed Sept. 30, 2003 is not **conception in this country** as required by *In re Mulder*.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 16-35 and 37-81 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Cato ('111 B1) as set forth in previous Office Action.

Regarding claim 16, Cato discloses a method of reserved recording of an upcoming program while a program preview for the upcoming program is being broadcast (Fig. 3), the method comprising:

receiving program guide information associated with the upcoming program (col. 7, line 63 to col. 8, line 15);

receiving, during the broadcast of the program review, a user command to reserve the upcoming program for future recording (col. 10, lines 54-66); and

Art Unit: 2616

reserving, in response to the user command, the upcoming program for future recording using the received program guide information (col. 10, lines 1-32),

wherein said reserving the upcoming program is only operable while the program preview is being displayed (col. 10, lines 54-67).

Regarding claim 17, Cato discloses the claimed wherein the program guide information is embedded in the program preview (col. 7, lines 33-61).

Regarding claim 18, Cato discloses the claimed wherein the program preview comprises audio and video data in addition to the program guide information (col. 9, lines 26-33).

Regarding claim 19, Cato discloses the claimed wherein said receiving the program guide information comprises automatically receiving the program guide information for the upcoming program to be broadcast at the future time without another user command requesting the program guide information (col. 7, line 63 to col. 8, line 15).

Regarding claim 20, Cato discloses the claimed wherein said reserving the upcoming program comprises reserving the upcoming program without retrieving stored program guide information from a memory (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

Regarding claim 21, Cato discloses the claimed prompting a user for the user command to reserve the upcoming program for future recording during the broadcast of the program preview (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

Regarding claim 22, Cato discloses the claimed providing a user input interface having user selection keys, wherein the user command is generated in response to only one of the user selection keys being depressed (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

Regarding claim 23, Cato discloses the claimed wherein the user command is generated in response to a single action of a user (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

Regarding claim 24, Cato discloses a program recording device (Fig. 3) for reserved recording of an upcoming program while a program preview or the upcoming program is being broadcast, the device comprising:

- a memory (internal memory 332, col. 10, lines 1-21) to store program guide information associated with the upcoming program;

- a user interface (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15) to receive, during the broadcast of the program preview, a user command to reserve the upcoming program for future recording; and

- a controller (CPU 312, col. 11, lines 39-48) to reserve the upcoming program for future recording using the program guide information,

- wherein the program guide information is not stored in said memory unit the user command is received (col. 4, lines 60-65 and col. 10, lines 1-20 and 54-67), and

- the controller is not operable to reserve the upcoming program unless the user command is receiving during the broadcast of the program information (col. 7, lines 46-62 and col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

Regarding claim 25, Cato discloses the claimed a receiver to receive the program guide information (receiver 104, col. 7, line 63 to col. 8, line 15).

Regarding claim 26, Cato discloses the claimed wherein the program guide information is embedded in the program preview (col. 7, lines 33-61).

Regarding claim 27, Cato discloses the claimed wherein the program preview comprises audio and video data in addition to the program guide information (col. 9, lines 26-33).

Regarding claim 28, Cato discloses the claimed wherein the program guide information for the upcoming program to be broadcast at the future time is automatically received without another user command requesting the program guide information (col. 7, line 63 to col. 8, line 15).

Regarding claim 29, Cato discloses the claimed wherein the program guide information is not stored as it is received by said receiver unless in response to the user command to reserve the upcoming program for future recording (col. 4, lines 60-65 and col. 10, lines 1-20 and 54-67).

Regarding claim 30, Cato discloses the claimed wherein said controller further prompts a user for the user command during the broadcast of the program preview (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

Regarding claim 31, Cato discloses the claimed a user input interface having user selection keys, wherein the user command is generated in response to only one of the user selection keys being depressed (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

Regarding claim 32, Cato discloses the claimed wherein the user command is generated in response to a single action of a user (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

Art Unit: 2616

Regarding claim 33, Cato discloses the claimed a recording unit (video cassette recorder, col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15) that is operable to record the upcoming program in accordance with the program guide information stored in said memory.

Regarding claim 34, Cato discloses the claimed wherein said recording unit comprises a video cassette recorder (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

Regarding claim 35, Cato discloses the claimed wherein said recording unit comprises a television having a recording unit (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

The computer readable storage medium claims 37 is met by the internal memory 332 disclosed in col. 6, lines 54-67 and reasons as discussed in claim 16 above.

Claim 38 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 17 above.

Claim 39 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 21 above.

Claim 40 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 22 above.

Claim 41 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 18 above.

Claim 42 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 19 above.

Claim 43 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 20 above.

Claim 44 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 23 above.

Regarding claim 45, Cato discloses the claimed recording the upcoming program in accordance with the program guide information (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

Regarding claim 46, Cato discloses a method of reserved recording of an upcoming program while a program preview for the upcoming program is being broadcast (Fig. 3), the method comprising:

Art Unit: 2616

receiving the program preview including program guide information associated with the upcoming program (col. 7, line 63 to col. 8, line 15);

displaying the program preview (col. 7, lines 23-32);

receiving, during said displaying the program preview, a user command to reserve the upcoming program for future recording while the program guide information is being received (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15); and

reserving, in response to the user command, the upcoming program for future recording using the received program guide information without the program guide information being displayed (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

Regarding claim 47, Cato discloses the claimed receiving a plurality of program previews for a plurality of upcoming programs (col. 7, line 63 to col. 8, line 15); and storing the plurality of program previews (col. 7, line 63 to col. 8, line 15); wherein said displaying the program previews comprises sequentially replaying the stored plurality of program previews (col. 7, line 63 to col. 8, line 15).

Claim 48 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 22 above.

Claim 49 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 23 above.

Regarding claim 50, Cato discloses a method of reserved recording of an upcoming program while a program preview for the upcoming program being broadcast (Fig. 3), the method comprising:

receiving program guide information associated with the upcoming program (col. 7, line 63 to col. 8, line 15);

using a user input interface having user selection keys to generate a user command to reserve the upcoming program for future recording in accordance with a single action of one of the user selection keys being depressed to selected and reserve the upcoming program (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15); and

reserving, in response to the user command, the upcoming program for future recording using the received program guide information (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

Regarding claim 51, Cato discloses the claimed wherein the user command is generated in response to the single action of a user while the program guide information is not displayed (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

The computer readable storage medium claims 52 is met by the internal memory 332 disclosed in col. 6, lines 54-67 and reasons as discussed in claim 50 above.

Claim 53 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 51 above.

Claim 54 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 17 above.

Claim 55 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 18 above.

Claim 56 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 19 above.

Claim 57 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 20 above.

Claim 58 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 21 above.

Claim 59 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 22 above.

Claim 60 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 23 above.

Claim 61 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 25 above.

Art Unit: 2616

Claim 62 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claims 17 and 26 above.

Claim 63 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claims 18 and 27 above.

Claim 64 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 28 above.

Regarding claim 65, Cato discloses the claimed wherein the program guide information is not displayed as it is received by said receiver while the user command to reserve the upcoming program for future recording is received (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

Claim 66 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 30 above.

Claim 67 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claims 22 and 31 above.

Claim 68 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claims 23 and 32 above.

Claim 69 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 33 above.

Claim 70 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 17 above.

Claim 71 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claims 21 and 39 above.

Claim 72 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claims 22 and 40 above.

Claim 73 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claims 18 and 41 above.

Claim 74 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claims 19 and 42 above.

Claim 75 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claims 20 and 43 above.

Claim 76 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claims 21 and 44 above.

Claim 77 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 45 above.

Regarding claim 78, Cato discloses the claimed wherein the received program guide information is not stored unless the user command is received (col. 4, lines 60-65 and col. 10, lines 1-20 and 54-67).

Claim 79 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 78 above.

Claim 80 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 78 above.

Regarding claim 81, Cato discloses a method of reserved recording of an upcoming program while a program preview for the upcoming program is being broadcast (Fig. 3), the method comprising:

receiving program guide information associated with the upcoming program, the program guide information being included with the program preview (col. 7, line 63 to col. 8, line 15 and col. 7, lines 33-61);

receiving, during the broadcast of the program preview, a user command to reserve the upcoming program for future recording (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15);
and

reserving, in response to the user command, the upcoming program for future recording using the received program guide information (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15);

wherein said reserving the upcoming program is only operable while the program preview is being broadcast (col. 11, line 49 to col. 12, line 15).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claim 36 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cato ('111 B1) as set forth in the previous Office Action.

Cato discloses all the features of the instant invention as discussed in claim 33 above except for providing wherein said recording unit comprises a Hard Disc drive.

The capability of recording/reproducing video signal using Hard Disc drive is old and well known in the art and therefore Official Notice is taken.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the well known Hard Disc drive into Cato's system in order to decrease the time in searching for the desired video signal because Hard Disc drive has random access capability.

7. Claims 82-85 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cato ('111 B1) in view of Mankovitz ('719 B2) as set forth in the previous Office Action.

Regarding claim 82, Cato discloses all the features of the instant invention as discussed in claim 16 above except for providing, if the user command is not received during the broadcast of the program preview: receiving another user command to display program information not received during the broadcast of the program preview; and reserving the upcoming program using the displayed program information.

Mankovitz teaches a television program record scheduling and satellite receiver control using compressed codes having G-code switch 22 allowing the user to display program information not received during the broadcast of the program preview and reserving the upcoming program using the displayed program information (col. 1, line 66 to col. 5, line 67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the G-code decoder as taught by Mankovitz into Cato's system in order to simplify the process of programming the VCR for unattended recording.

Regarding claim 83, Mankovitz also discloses the claimed receiving another user command to display program information not received during the broadcast of the program preview (G-code switch 22 disclosed from col. 1, line 66 to col. 5, line 67); and alternately reserving the upcoming program using the displayed program information (reserving the upcoming program using G-code disclosed from col. 1, line 66 to col. 5, line 67).

Claim 84 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 83 above.

Claim 85 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 83 above.

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thai Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7382. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. to Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

Art Unit: 2616

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TTQ


THANH TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER